THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Ministry of Finance was informed that the present rate of 10-12% charged on loans advanced to the Self-Help Groups under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yozana (SGSY) is higher. As the scheme specifically targets the BPL population in rural areas, Ministry of Finance was requested to look into the matter and take appropriate initiative to peg the interest rate within a band of 4-6%.

(c) Ministry of Finance informed that the interest rate regime has been deregulated and the individual banks are free to fix a rate of interest on their lending depending on the cost of the funds and the risks involved in such lending. It also informed that the Government on its part has been regularly advising the Banks to keep the interest as low as 9%for rural and agricultural loans amounts up to Rs. 50,000/-. Ministry of Finance have also highlighted the fact that Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines provide that the loans up to Rs. 2,00,000/-should not be above Benchmark Prime Lending Rate and NABARD extends refinance to Banks at the rate of 5.5% for loans up to Rs. 50,000/- and 6.25% for loans above Rs. 50,000/- under SGSY.

National Land Records Development Mission

383. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set-up National Land Records Development Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it would be made functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (c) Process to set up a Mission to look after computerization of land records and integrate them

functionally and spatially to develop a Comprehensive Modernized Land Records Management System in the country has been initiated by the Government. The Mission would be made functional after obtaining due approvals.

Foodgrains demanded by M.P. under Food for Work Programme

†384. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to State:

(a) the additional quantity of foodgrains demanded by Madhya Pradesh under the national "Food for Work Programme".

(b) the action taken so far to meet the demand of foodgrains; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) No additional foodgrains have been demanded by Madhya Pradesh during 2005-06 under the National Food for Work Programme.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Total Sanitation Campaign in A.P.

385. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the aims and objectives of the Total Sanitation Campaign Programme;

(b) the total number of villages in the State of Andhra Pradesh covered under Total Sanitation Campaign Programme;

(c) how many toilet facilities have been provided under Total Sanitation Programme in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.